



The Magazine

Williamsburg Chapter
Virginia Society
Sons of the American Revolution



By signing the Declaration of Independence, the fifty-six Americans pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. Nine died of wounds during the Revolutionary War. Five were captured or imprisoned. Wives and children were jailed, mistreated, or left penniless. Twelve signers' houses were burned to the ground. No signer defected. Their honor, like their nation remained intact.

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Message from the President

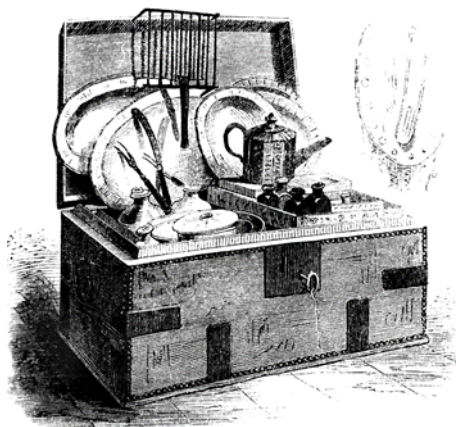
Congratulations! You established a chapter attendance record at our 11 November Veterans Day meeting! It was the result of the combination of an impressive ceremony at the Colonial Williamsburg site where 156 of America's first veterans are interred and a luncheon featuring noted colonial history author, Dr. Andrew O'Shaughnessy. The ceremony at the grave site was the result of Tom Campbell and Joe Spruill's extensive coordination with Colonial Williamsburg and their development and presentation of historically accurate scripts. Well done, Tom and Joe!

The induction of Dan Harrington and Gregg Lilly as new Williamsburg chapter SAR members provided us the opportunity to welcome them to our growing chapter membership. The diligence and tenacious efforts of Chapter Registrar, Ron Losee, has added 21 new members this year! As has been our custom, we will not have a chapter meeting in December.

Therefore it is very important that you plan now to attend the joint Thomas Nelson Jr. and Williamsburg Chapter meeting at the Fort Magruder Hotel on Saturday evening January 9th. VASSAR president, Reverdy E. Wright, will be our guest and he will officially install the 2016 officers of both our chapter and the Thomas Nelson Jr. chapter. Please accept my personal best wishes that each of you fully enjoy the season's joys, won, in part, for us by our patriot forefathers.

- Don Swain





Chapter/VASSAR Calendar

Upcoming SAR Events in Our Region & Beyond

DECEMBER 5th, 2015

Commemoration of the Battle of
Great Bridge
Great Bridge, VA

January 9th, 2016

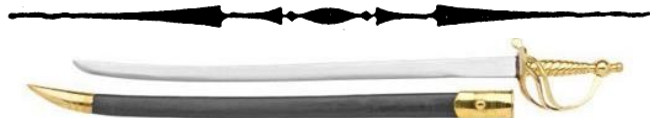
Joint meeting with Thomas Nelson Jr.
Chapter and Installation of Officers
for 2016.

Fort Magruder Hotel, Williamsburg

JANUARY 15th – 16th

Commemoration of the Battle of
Cowpens
Gaffney, SC

A NSSAR event sponsored by SCSAR



The Battle of Great Bridge

The Battle of Great Bridge on December 9, 1775 played a critical role in the Revolutionary War and the subsequent creation of our great nation. It was this Patriot victory that forced Lord Dunmore, British Royal Governor of Virginia, and his soldiers to evacuate and ultimately leave Virginia. As a direct result of this victory, four days after this crucial battle, the Virginia Convention adopted the first public declaration expressing a spirit of independence. How different our country might be, had it not been for the Battle of Great Bridge.

Patriots and British soldiers faced each other for eleven days and skirmished amid constant cannon fire before the climactic Battle of Great Bridge that lasted but a half-hour.

But, in that short time, patriotic volunteers showed that they could stand up to cannon fire and rout a unit of the best professional soldiers in the world. Patriot soldiers poured heavy fire into the British Redcoats who marched relentlessly forward, wavered, and then came on again.

Reinforcements joined Patriots in the breastwork and were ordered to withhold their fire until the British were within 50 yards. This was the first Patriot victory of the Revolutionary War.





*The members of the Williamsburg Chapter,
Virginia Society Sons of the American
Revolution wish everyone a very Merry
Christmas.*

Registrar's Corner

I continue to receive inquiries regarding membership in the SAR and am surprised at the number of gents I have met in the last month who have either expressed a desire to join or have a source to obtain their genealogy for the application worksheet. My prospects list continues to grow and I predict 2016 will be a good year, especially if our members raise the subject of the SAR in discussions with friends, acquaintances (and even strangers!). Wake up those closet genealogists!

Send me an e-mail with a prospect's e-mail address and I will do the rest. Based on the comments of prospects and new members, the chapter is highly regarded and has an excellent reputation in the community. Keep them coming!!!!

-Ron Losee

Williamsburg Chapter SAR Veterans Day 2015



Chapter members pose for a group picture during the SAR Veterans Day ceremonies held at the burial ground behind the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg. L- R Jack Lee, Clyde Spence, Tom Campbell, Roger Strange, Steve Riddle, Ed Truslow, Bill Greafe, Bruce Meyer, Milt Holt, Harley Stewart, Bob Davis, and Will Phillips



The Williamsburg Chapter of SAR held a ceremony on Veterans' Day, November 11th, honoring some of our earliest veterans - the 158 Patriots buried in the Colonial Williamsburg Palace Garden. These 156 men and two women died at the former Governor's Palace when it was used as a hospital for wounded or ill soldiers during and after the Battle of Yorktown.

Members of local Boy Scout Troops participate in the ceremony to commemorate the patriots who are buried in the area behind the Governors Palace in Colonial Williamsburg



Williamsburg Chapter SAR Veterans Day 2015 Cont'd



The Colonial Williamsburg Fife and Drum Corps lead the procession into the ceremony



Wreaths honoring the fallen patriots were presented by The Williamsburg Chapter of both the DAR and the SAR, in addition to wreaths from the Thomas Nelson Jr. Chapter of the SAR and the 76th Regiment of Foot.



Colonial Williamsburg's Patrick Henry, portrayed by Richard Shumann, offered remarks reminding us all of the values that we hold dear, and that these patriots gave their lives so that we might enjoy them today.



November Luncheon Meeting

Don Swain, President, Williamsburg Chapter of the SAR, standing on the far left, welcomes the newest members of the chapter after their induction. L-R Registrar Ron Losec, inductee Greg Lilly, inductee Dan Harrington and his wife Mary Harrington.



Ed Truslow, on the right, receives his Military Service Medal and Certificate from Robert Davis.



Ed Truslow, on the right, and Eric Ely, on the left, receive Supplemental Patriot Certificates from Williamsburg Chapter President Don Swain.





Dr. Andrew O' Shaughnessy, Professor of History at UVA, and author of the award winning novel "The Men Who Lost America", spoke to the Williamsburg Chapter of the SAR about the real reasons the colonials were victorious.



2015 Williamsburg Chapter Officers

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At-Large Member	George Bridewell	gbridewell@aol.com

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*Reminder: No chapter luncheon meeting in December.
Please join us for the joint meeting on January 9th.*

